

ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF
PCT PUBLICATION: WO 02/04626 A1
Entitled: "FUNGAL CELL WALL SYNTHESIS GENE"

Cited in Information Disclosure Statement

Re: US Application Serial No.: 10/536,935
Int'l Filing Date: November 21, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: 082368-004400US

DESCRIPTION

FUNGAL CELL WALL SYNTHESIS GENE

5 Technical Field

The present invention relates to DNAs encoding proteins participating in fungal cell wall synthesis, proteins encoded by the DNAs, methods for examining whether or not a certain compound has an influence on the transport process involved in the transport of
10 GPI-anchored proteins to the cell wall, and antifungal agents having an influence on the transport process involved in the transport of GPI-anchored proteins to the cell wall.

Background Art

15 In recent years, management of opportunistic infections are gaining importance more than ever due to an increase in the number of elderly people and immunocompromised patients as a result of advanced chemotherapies, etc. Deep-seated mycosis due to *Candida*, *Aspergillus*, *Cryptococcus*, and such, account for a portion of such opportunistic
20 infections, and the proportion is increasing year after year. The fact that opportunistic infections by many avirulent bacteria occur one after another, shows that the problem of infectious diseases will not end as long as there are underlying diseases that diminish the immune functions of patients. Although new strategies for infectious diseases control,
25 including the problem of resistant bacteria, will be one of the crucial issues in the soon-to-come aged society, extremely few effective therapeutic agents exist at present.

Up to now, therapeutic agents for fungal infections were developed based mainly on the strategy of creating novel compounds by chemically
30 modifying known structure. However, due to problems such as the emergence of resistant bacteria, the development of new drugs based on new mechanisms is eagerly anticipated.

Considering such circumstances, the inventors focused on a novel